

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): MASUDA, et al  
Serial No.: (not yet assigned)  
Filed: August 26, 2003  
For: PLASMA ETCHING APPARATUS AND PLASMA ETCHING  
METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98**

Mail Stop DD  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 26, 2003

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, this information disclosure statement is being submitted with the following citation as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(d).

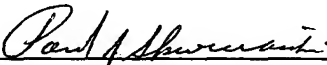
~~"A copy of any patent, publication or other information listed in an information disclosure statement is not required to be provided if it was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application, provided that the prior application is properly identified in the statement and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120."~~

Applicant(s) are submitting herewith a copy of Form PTO-1449 which list documents cited in parent application(s) Serial No. 09/984,052, filed October 26, 2001, Serial No. 09/421,044, filed October 20, 1999, Serial No. 09/227,332, filed January 8, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,171,438, Serial No. 08/611,758, filed March 8, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,874,012.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.34403C12) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initials	Document No.	Date	Name	Class Subclass	Filing Date If Approp.
	4,209,357	6/80	Gorin et al		
	5,272,417	12/93	Ohmi		
	5,283,414	2/94	Straemke (corresponds to DE 40 07 123 A1)		
	5,290,381	3/94	Nozawa et al		
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	5,445,709	8/95	Kojima et al		
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	5,531,834	7/96	Ishizuka et al		
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	6,171,438	1/01	Masuda et al		

Foreign Patent Documents

Document No.	Date	Country	Class Subclass	Translation Yes No
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57-23228	2/82	Japan		
58-153332	9/83	Japan		
59-144132	8/84	Japan		
62-95828	5/87	Japan		
62-218570	9/87	Japan		
63-5526	1/88	Japan		
63-75034	5/88	Japan		

Form PTO-1449  
Equivalent

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark Office

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Group:  
Page 2 of 2

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Document No.	Date	Country	Class Subclass	Translation	
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0 488 307 A2	6/92	European			
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6-196410	7/94	Japan			
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Other Documents (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

"Suppression Shield for RF Plasma", W. J. Curry et al, IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, Vol. 22, No. 11, April 1980, pp 4909-4910

Examiner

Date Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609;  
Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.